

VIRGINIA HUD LINES

JUNE 2006

E-Briefs from the Richmond Office of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
800/842-2610, extension 3742 Bill Miles, Director www.hud.gov/virginia

QUOTE TO NOTE

"We applaud the men and women who work to achieve the dream of homeownership, and we are grateful for those who provide counseling, lending, real estate, construction, and other services to these individuals. The hard work, financial discipline, and personal responsibility of our country's homeowners help transform neighborhoods throughout our Nation and reflect the best qualities of America." – President Bush proclaiming June as National Homeownership Month

SAVE SUMMIT

Join the Virginia Poverty Law Center, Virginia Organizing Project, PHAR and Legal Aid Justice Center at a the *Save Our Housing, Save Our Homes* conference June 9th at the First Baptist Church in Charlottesville. Register at www.phar.typepad.com or call 434/984-3255.

MORE DEADLINES

More HUD SuperNOFA deadlines arrive in June. Applications for Section 202 Supportive Elderly Housing are due on June 2nd. For Lead & Healthy Homes technical studies and Lead Outreach on June 6th. For Healthy Homes Demonstration, Lead Hazard Reduction, Lead Hazard Control and LEAP on June 7th. For Family Self-Sufficiency on June 8th. For Youthbuild on June 9th. For HOPWA on June 13th. For Brownfields Economic Development Initiative on June 14th. For assisted Living Conversion on June 15th. For Multifamily Service Coordinators on June 16th. For public housing Neighborhood Networks on June 23rd. For more, visit www.grants.gov

BRIEF BRIEFS

IRS rules "organizations that provide seller-funded downpayment assistance to homebuyers do not qualify as tax-exempt charities" but FHA will insure such mortgages as long as nonprofit is in good standing with IRS. . Governor Kaine selects Sheila Hill-Christian, director of Richmond Redevelopment & Housing, as Virginia State Lottery director and Earl McClenney Jr., a VCU and VUU professor, as senior advisor for urban affairs . . . Virginia Peninsula Association of REALTORS breaks ground for new headquarters in Hampton . . . Telamon moves to 4915 Fitzhugh Avenue, Suite 200, in Richmond. . Capital One awards \$175,000 to Richmond Redevelopment & Housing's Abandoned Home Rehabilitation fund . . . Attorney General Bob McDonnell delivers keynote at inaugural luncheon of Tri-Cities Regional Domestic Violence Task Force in Petersburg . . . Contact monica.jefferson@vhda.com to attend VHDA's June 10th Affordable Housing Fair at Hampton Convention Center . . . *Roanoke Times* says second group of Radford students to help Habitat for Humanity restore New Orleans homes. . . June 30th is deadline for \$50,000 Fannie Mae grants for nonprofits reclaiming "vacant and abandoned properties". . . Appalachian Regional Commission holds 2007 focus group on June 9th at Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon. . . Blue Ridge Housing, TAP and City of Roanoke host Homebuyer's Fair June 24th. . . \$8.9 million in Federal funds awarded for safe drinking water to 9,100 houses in Chilhowie and Marion and Montgomery, Russell, Scott, Tazewell, Wise and Washington counties. . . U.S. Department of Justice posts 2007 Weed & Seed application materials, due January 2007, at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/ws/2007guideln.html

MODERNIZING CDBG

Citing "areas of high poverty and community distress that currently receive less federal funding than more affluent communities," HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson has urged Congress to reform "an outdated formula" that allocates CDBG funds so "communities with the greatest needs" get "more funding compared to relatively less needy places." He proposes a "simpler, single" formula that clearly reflects need, establishing a minimum grant threshold, consolidating CDBG, Rural Housing & Economic Development, Brownfields Economic Development and Section 108 loan guarantee programs into one block grant and a \$200 million "challenge grant" for communities focusing CDBG funds in target neighborhoods. He believes the current CDBG program doesn't reflect the "modern needs" of today's communities."

CALLING FHA!

Are you a homebuyer or seller, real estate agent or lender, inspector or appraiser, with questions about the how's, what's and why's of FHA mortgage insurance? Then contact the brand new FHA Resource Center launched by Federal Housing Commissioner Brian Montgomery May 1st by visiting www.fha.gov or calling 1-800-CALL-FHA or hud@cushelp.com If you have a question, we'll get you the answer.

BRIEF BRIEFS TOO

Roanoke Redevelopment & Housing celebrates \$40 million HOPE VI transformation of Villages at Lincoln . . . May 24th Federal Register publishes final rule prohibiting use of CDBG funds for "job-pirating" activities . . . Calling her a "consummate problem-solver," Governor Kaine confers Award for Excellence in customer service on DHCD's Violet Peyton . . . May 6th *Eastern Shore News* features five new Exmore businesses started by \$100,000 CDBG-funded loan fund created by DHCD . . . EPA awards \$200,000 to Richmond and \$400,000 to Roanoke for brownfields assessments. . . Bank of America names Charles Henderson, head of community development programs, as president of the Bank's Hampton Roads markets. . . Virginia Fair Housing Office holds June 14th workshop on fair housing "legal rights and responsibilities" in Richmond. . . *Kiplinger* picks Charlottesville, Lynchburg and Richmond as "smart places" to live. . . Community Housing Partners and Holy Tabernacle Housing Corporation dedicate Checed Warwick complex for elderly in Newport News. . . Douglas Freeman High students in Richmond have raised \$50,000 and will give up their Saturdays in September to build Habitat home. . . Ellis Henry succeeds John Baker as director of Roanoke Redevelopment & Housing. . . HHS seeks applications at www.grants.gov, due July 10th, for Communities Empower Youth grants under Compassion Capital Fund. . . Wytheville Redevelopment & Housing to showcase affordable housing June 9th. . . SBA names Daniel Stevens and Thomas McDonough as 2006 Small Business Persons of Year. . . National Park Service ranks Virginia second only to Missouri in using Federal tax incentives to rehabilitate historic properties. . . Barry Clark named Greene County administrator. . . Community Preservation & Development and Fairfax Redevelopment & Housing complete renovation of 102-unit Island Walk in Reston.

GOT MANDATES?

Virginia Commission on Local Government is holding a July 10th public hearing at DHCD in Richmond on how to improve the "process by which" state agencies "evaluate the impact of mandates on local governments." To participate, call the Commission at 804/786-6508.

DON'T FORGET

Virginia Sustainable Building Network holds annual meeting on Friday, June 9th, at Omni in Charlottesville. For more, visit www.vsbnet.org

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